

PEOPLE FROM CONNECTICUT ARE READY FOR A NEW DIRECTION

Under the leadership of President Bush and his Republican allies in Congress, life has become more difficult for people from Connecticut. Here are some of the ways that life has become less affordable and secure in Connecticut. Democrats are working for real security, better jobs, college access for all, energy independence, affordable health care, and retirement security. It's time for a new direction in Connecticut.

INCOME: PEOPLE FROM CONNECTICUT ARE EARNING LESS TODAY THAN THEY WERE FIVE YEARS AGO

- In 2000, the median income in Connecticut was \$58,069.¹
- In 2005, the median income in Connecticut was \$56,889, a drop of 2 percent.²

HEALTH CARE: THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED IN CONNECTICUT HAS GROWN UNDER BUSH REPUBLICANS

- In 2000, Connecticut had 319,000 adults without insurance (9.7 percent).³
- In 2005, Connecticut had 394,000 adults without insurance (11.3 percent).⁴
- Connecticut had 22,289 children benefit from the SCHIP Program.⁵

EDUCATION: THE COST OF COLLEGE CONTINUES TO RISE IN CONNECTICUT

- In 2001, tuition at a public four-year institution in Connecticut was \$10,512.⁶ In 2005, it was \$13,824, a 32 percent increase.⁷
- In 2001, tuition at a private four-year institution in Connecticut was \$27,818.⁸ In 2005, it was \$33,965, a 22 percent increase.⁹
- Number of people from Connecticut affected by the lapse of the College Tuition Tax Deduction – 51,809¹⁰
- Number of people from Connecticut affected by the lapse of the Educator Expenses Tax Deduction – 50,836¹¹

GAS PRICES: THE HIGH COST OF GAS CONTINUES TO BE A BURDEN FOR CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS

- In 2001, the average cost of gas in Connecticut was \$1.513 a gallon.¹²
- Today the average cost of gas in Connecticut is \$2.616 a gallon.¹³
- In 2001, the average annual cost of gas for a household in Connecticut was \$2,018.¹⁴

- Today the average annual cost of gas for a household in Connecticut is \$3,489, \$1,471 (72.9 percent) more than it was in 2001.¹⁵

SOCIAL SECURITY: PEOPLE FROM CONNECTICUT DON'T WANT AN END TO SOCIAL SECURITY

- Number of Social Security Beneficiaries in Connecticut – 584,090¹⁶
- Average Monthly Benefit per Beneficiary in Connecticut – \$970¹⁷

IRAQ, TROOPS AND VETERANS: PEOPLE FROM CONNECTICUT ON THE FRONT LINES

- Number of people from Connecticut killed in Iraq – 21¹⁸
- Number of people from Connecticut wounded in Iraq – 171¹⁹
- Number of people from Connecticut killed in Afghanistan – 3²⁰
- Number of people from Connecticut wounded in Afghanistan – 24²¹
- Number of Veterans in Connecticut – 268,975²¹

REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR GIVEAWAYS FOR A WEALTHY MINORITY WHILE IGNORING CONNECTICUT'S MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS

- Only 640 estates in Connecticut paid an Estate Tax in 2004.²³
- Only 116 estates in Connecticut will benefit from the Estate Tax cut in 2009.²⁴

CRIME: FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY POLICING DISAPPEARING

- Amount of COPS Funding dispersed in 2002 – 4,056,806²⁵
- Amount of COPS Funding dispersed in 2006 – 3,740,403²⁶

TAX CUTS: BUSH TAX POLICIES BENEFIT THE WEALTHIEST PEOPLE FROM CONNECTICUT

The Bush tax cuts have overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest people from Connecticut.

- In 2001, the richest one percent of Connecticut residents each received an average of \$5,906 in tax cuts, while middle class Connecticut residents received only \$429.²⁷
- In 2006, the richest one percent of Connecticut residents will receive an average of \$102,303 in tax cuts, while middle class Connecticut residents will only receive \$808.²⁸
- In 2010, under the Bush tax plan, the richest one percent of Connecticut residents will each receive an average of \$191,911 in tax cuts, while middle class Connecticut residents will only receive \$889.²⁹

The richest people from Connecticut receive an ever-growing share of the Bush tax cut.

- In 2001, the richest people from Connecticut received 11.4 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class received 16.7 percent of the tax cut.³⁰
- But, in 2006, the richest people from Connecticut will get 41.6 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 6.5 percent of the tax cut.³¹
- And, in 2010, the richest people from Connecticut will get 61.3 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 5.7 percent of the tax cut.³²

Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest people from Connecticut.

- In 2010, the richest people from Connecticut will receive an average of \$32,338 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That means the richest people from Connecticut will be getting over 59.7 percent of all of the tax cut benefit.³³
- In contrast, in 2010, middle class people from Connecticut will receive an average of \$77 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That's just 2.8 percent of the benefit going to the middle class.³⁴

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